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ON THE VARIATIONS OF THE BRIGHTNESS OF THE SATELITS.

It is well known, the satelits have the variable bright-
nesses.

The regular observations enable us to anser the following
questions:

- 1) What is the rotation period?
- 2) What is the variation of the period?
- 3) What is the direction of an axis?
- 4) What is the change of it in the result of the precession?

The soviet astronomers obtained many observations of
brightness of the second and third satelites.

The preliminary results are as follows.

- 1) The second Sputnik being observed at many stations, especially
at Odessa, Gorky and Leningrad. The consideration of some ob-
servations made by V.Crigorevsky showed that this sputnik va-
ried its brightness like a diffuse scattering body. A great
number of light -curves were obtained. The changes of distance

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from the sputnik to the observer, as well as the influence of the phase angle were taken into account.

After the complete discussion of these light-curves we expect to determine the direction of the axis of rotation.

The formula of the period of rotation is:

$$\text{Max JD.} = 2436187.65421 + 0.00120890756.E + 0.0001789\left(\frac{E}{10000}\right)^2$$

2) The rocket of the third satellite changes its brightness very rapidly and with great amplitude. We obtained very many moments of light-maxima. These moments are represented by the formula:

$$\text{Max} = 1958 \text{ July } 23,032135 + 0,0001011892.E + 0.0000687 \times 10^{-8}.E^2$$

During each passage of the rocket there are some definite deviations from the formula

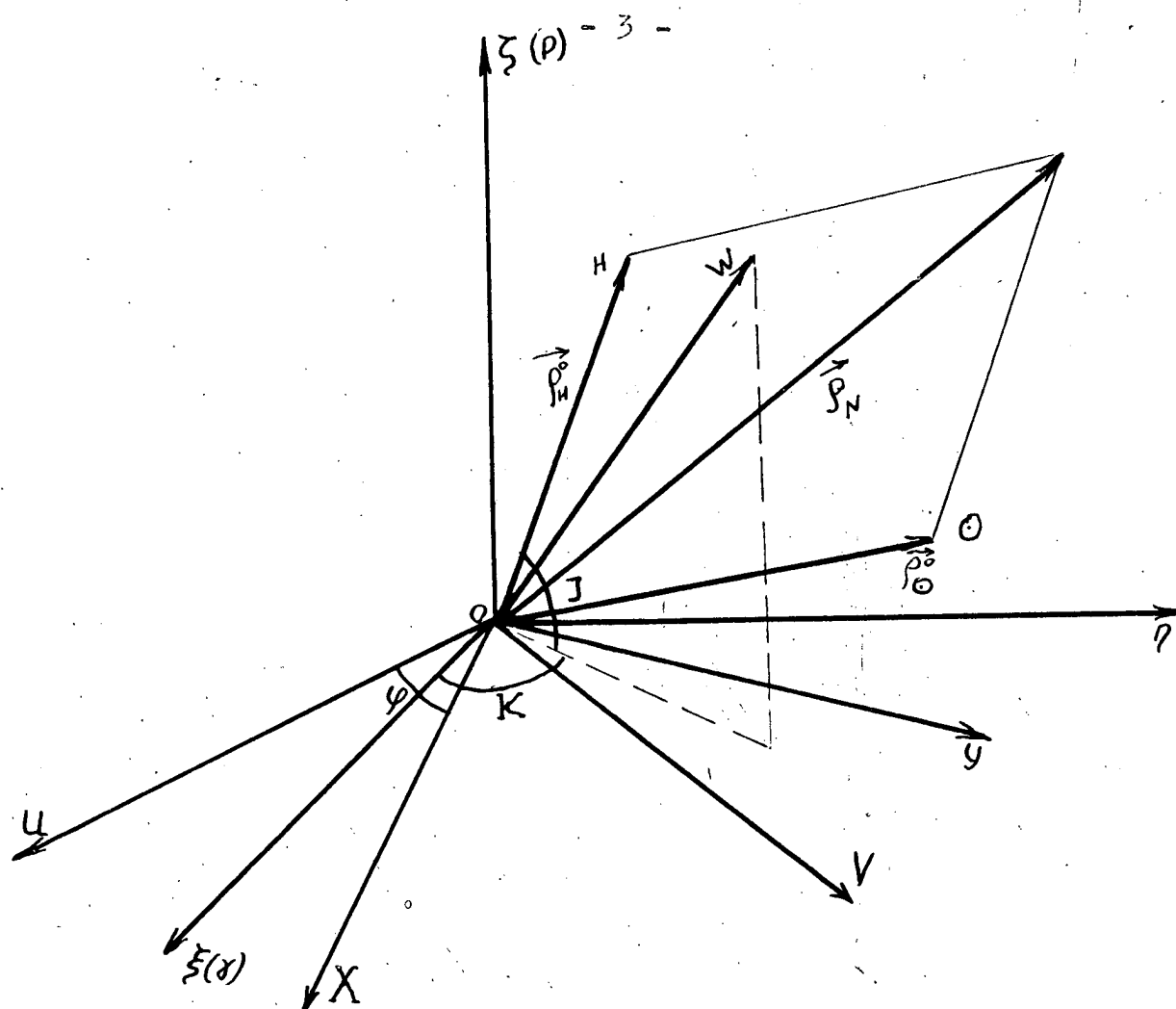
$$M = M_0 + P'.E,$$

where the P' is an temporary value of the period. These deviations enable us to find out the direction of the axis.

We suppose that:

- a) The shape of the rocket is a cylindrical one.
- b) The axis of rotation is perpendicular to the axis of cylinder.
- c) The body of a rocket does not scatter the solar light, but reflects it.

Let us choose three systems of rectangular coordinates as it is shown by figure.



0575 - equatorial system

OXYW - the system which is connected with the body of the rocket. OX - is the direction of the axis of cillindre. The angle φ between OU and OX is in the equatorial plane of the rocket.

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maximum. Let us take α_N u δ_N equatorial rocketocentric coordinates of the end of the vector $\vec{\rho}_N$.

So:

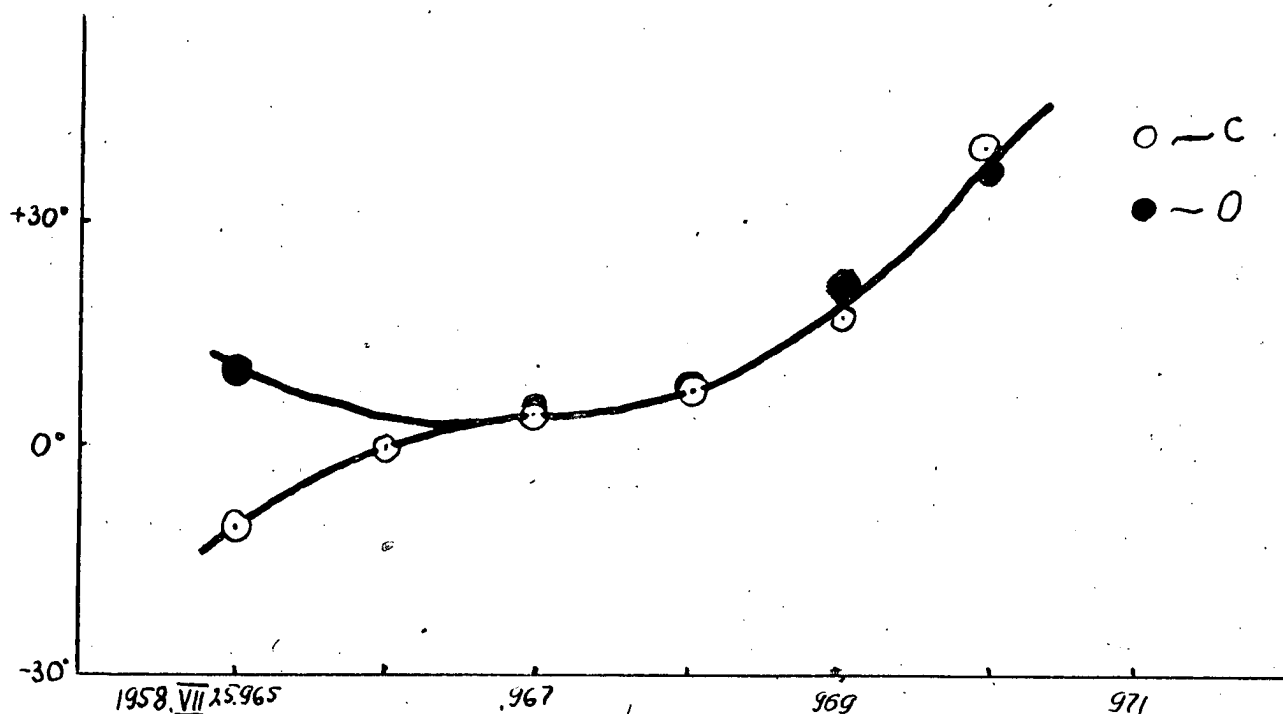
$$\operatorname{ctg} \varphi = \sin I \operatorname{ctg}(\alpha_N - k) - \cos I \operatorname{tg} \delta_N \operatorname{cosec}(\alpha_N - k)$$

where K and I equatorial coordinates of axis of rotation.

During the passage of the rocket 1958 July 25.96

$$k = 167^\circ; I = 21^\circ$$

The observed and computed values of the angle φ shown on the figure:



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